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Front Page Edit Other  
Page Page Page

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# Television Page

## Lippman Urgent And Compelling

By E. K. SHULL

In this season of nameless, faceless TV actors giving their filmed clichés in well-worn stories, the need of finding something urgent and compelling is endless.

So it was with Walter Lippman and his hour on "CBS Reports" last night. I had every good intention of flipping over to the Ernie Kovacs special at the midpoint of Lippman's hour, but I couldn't force myself to do it.

For here, in this confused space year of 1961 when the people are uneasily shifting from one foot to another waiting for a grand explanation by a tall leader, the 71-year-old columnist came through with a crisp, clear look at the world about us.

I do not propose that we should all go into ecstasies over his conclusions, but his knowledgeable explanations of the inter-relationship of the Cold War to the hot battles to the U. S. home front to President Kennedy's New Frontier were spoken with authority and realism.

He took Kennedy to task for failing to explain the world and domestic situation to the people—"he ought to have the patience that a teacher must have . . ."

HE SUGGESTED the President do away with his Assistant John, Chief of Staff and Allen Dulles and the monuments got up in Cuba.

The most poignant moments of the hour came at the conclusion when Howard K. Smith who astutely guided Lippman from topic-to-topic, asked Lippman if his opposition to military action in Laos, Cuba and Berlin could earn him the derisive title of "appeaser."

Lippman responded:

"I don't think old men ought to promote wars for young men to fight. I don't like warlike old men. I think it's their business to try as best they can, by whatever wisdom they can find, to avert what would be an absolutely irreparable calamity for the world."

This is stimulating stuff, unfortunately sandwiched on the TV dial between Elliot Ness Meets Legs Diamond and Greenha Marx, a sure death spot as TV ratings go.